

Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /039 W

----- 105236

R 161101Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3463

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONGEN HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 10057

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, VS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN PRESS REPRESENTATION IN SOUTH VIET-NAM

REF: A) BANGKOK 9137 B) HONG KONG 4185

1. IN ADDITION TO THE FOREIGN NEWSMEN VISITING VIET-NAM FOR THE APRIL 25 ELECTIONS (REFS), SEVERAL WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES AND RADIO-TELEVISION NETWORKS ALSO HAVE REPRESENTATIVES--IN ALMOST ALL CASES LOCAL VIETNAMESE--THERE, AS THE DEPARTMENT IS AWARE. PAUL FOGEL OF UPI HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT HIS AGENCY'S REPORTER IN SAIGON RECENTLY SENT A TELEX ADVISING THAT HE HAD LEARNED "OFFICIALLY" THAT ALL FOREIGN PRESS ACTIVITIES THERE WILL CEASE AFTER THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY, "AS NATIONAL REUNIFICATION IS ACHIEVED." HE WAS TOLD THAT IF ANY AGENCIES WISH TO CONTINUE TO COVER VIET-NAM, THEY MUST ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THE MFA IN HANOI.

2. WE HAVE CHECKED WITH NBC AND REUTERS, BOTH OF WHOM ARE REPRESENTED BY VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES IN SAIGON. NEITHER REPORTS RECEIVING ANY MESSAGE SIMILAR TO THAT OF UPI TO DATE. HOWEVER, KYODO'S JAPANESE CORRESPONDENT IN SAIGON, WHOM AUTHORITIES "CORDINALLY REQUESTED" TO LEAVE BY MID-APRIL, HAS NOW BEEN ASKED TO REMAIN THROUGH
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ELECTION DAY, DEPARTING JUST THEREAFTER. KYODO WAS ALSO

TOLD THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO HAVE A VIETNAMESE
STRINGER ONCE HE DEPARTS. KYODO INTERPRETS THIS ACTION
AS SIGNIFYING THAT SAIGON'S DAYS AS A CITY OF MORE THAN
LOCAL IMPORTANCE ARE ENDED.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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